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ACTION OFFICE CM-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACI IMMEDIATE 0124
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC NIACI IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL BEIJING 15489

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, CH
SUBJECT: TFCH01: DRAFT WHITEHOUSE STATEMENT ON
SITUATION IN CHINA

I. IN RESPONSE TO WHITEHOUSE REQUEST, EMBASSY
SUGGESTS THAT A STATEMENT BE ISSUED ON THE SITUATION
IN CHINA ALONG THE LINES SET FORTH BELOW:

WE ARE DEEPLY ANGERED AND SADDENED BY CURRENT EVENTS
IN CHINA. THE SITUATION CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE.
THE GOVERNMENT FIRST DECLARED MARTIAL LAW MAY 20.
IT ORDERED IN THE ARMY TO STABILIZE THE SITUATION
AND PROTECT PUBLIC ORDER, SAYING THE ARMY WOULD
NEVER BE USED AGAINST THE STUDENTS AND THE PEOPLE.
NEVERTHELESS, FORCE HAS BEEN USED AGAINST THE
STUDENTS AND THE GENERAL POPULATION OF BEIJING.
CONTRARY TO PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY THE CHINESE
GOVERNMENT, MILITARY FORCE WAS NOT ONLY USED AGAINST
"A SMALL HANDFUL" OF PEOPLE, BUT AGAINST THOUSANDS
OF STUDENTS AND OTHER CITIZENS. WE HAVE REPEATEDLY
STATED THAT VIOLENCE IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO THE
CURRENT SITUATION. IT IS NOW APPARENT THAT VIOLENCE
IS ONLY BEGETTING MORE VIOLENCE.

IN LIGHT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION, THE U. S.
GOVERNMENT MUST ACT TO EXPRESS ITS STRONG
CONDAMNATION OF THE USE OF FORCE BY THE CHINESE
GOVERNMENT AGAINST ITS OWN PEOPLE. WE URGE THAT THE
TROOPS, WHICH HAVE ONLY SUCCEEDED IN INFLAMING THE
POPULACE, BE WITHDRAWN. THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS
APPLAUDED THE FACT THAT DIALOGUE HAS REPLACED
CONFRONTATION IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA CAN USE
SUCH A FORMULA WHEN DEALING WITH ITS OWN PEOPLE.

UNTIL THAT TIME, HOWEVER, IT IS CLEAR THAT "BUSINESS
AS USUAL" CAN NO LONGER BE THE OPERATIVE PHRASE IN
U. S. RELATIONS WITH CHINA. OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH
CHINA CAN NO LONGER BE DESCRIBED AS NORMAL.

U. S. GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO SUSPEND CERTAIN
SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES SUCH AS HIGH-LEVEL VISITS UNTIL
THE SITUATION NORMALIZES AND VIOLENCE ENDS.
LILLEY

United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
Review Authority: MILLER, ROBERT
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